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A paper, of which the following is an abstract, on "Cleveland Gravehills," contributed by the Rev. J. C. Atkinson, was then read :—

"The moorland districts of the valley of the Esk, lying to the west of Whitby, at between eight and sixteen miles distance, are thickly studded with burial mounds, or barrows, or in the old Danish country vernacular, "howes". Many have been destroyed; but of the larger ones which yet remain, a large proportion had been examined by the author. He obtained forty-five urns, and evidence of more than one hundred interments after cremation; but not any trace of metal. In some of the larger mounds, evidence appeared of three successive interments,—the first in the centre; the second, inserted at a distance from the centre, and rudely and violently misplaced to make room for a third, due to an intrusive, perhaps a conquering tribe. The author of this paper (which will appear at length in the *Memoirs* of the Society) was of opinion that the whole of the remains belong to an extremely remote period."

The following paper by Mr. Peacock was then read :—

"On the 6th and 8th of November last I was invited by Matthew Maw, Esq., of Cleatham Hall, near Kirton-in-Lindsey, Lincolnshire, to examine a barrow on his estate. Cleatham is a hamlet in the parish of Manton; on the sand hills in the latter place several relics of Celtic times have been discovered. No early remains are known to have been found at Cleatham. The place first appears in history in the *Domesday Survey*, where we are told that the Abbot of Peterborough had a manor there. This manor was afterwards subinfeudated to the family of Bussey, of Hougham and Scotton. It is now the property of the gentleman on whose estate the barrow is situate.

"The mound we opened stands in a grass field adjoining the highway leading from Kirton-in-Lindsey to Messingham. The field has some time or other been under cultivation, as it is marked by ridge and furrow. It has been pasture land during the memory of the oldest inhabitants. The dimensions of the hill could not be taken with strict accuracy, as in former times rabbits had burrowed in it, and the trenches made by rabbit catchers had, in some parts, injured its contour, and had also probably somewhat lessened the height and widened the base. The measurements before the work began were :—Length of base from north to south, 114 feet; length of base from east to west, 75 feet; central depth, 9 ft. 6 in.

"Almost in the centre of the hill, at a depth of 9 ft. 6 in., the excavators came upon the level platform on which the hill had been built. Here were the remains of a large fire. The charcoal was quite fresh, so that the grain of the wood used could be distinctly seen. The chief materials of the fire had been the branches of oak trees, there were some few bits of ash charcoal among them. This fire had been employed to consume a human body. The whole of the *débris* was full of burnt bones, but they were so much calcined that it was not possible to identify any of them except two vertebræ, a few fragments of ribs, and a lower jaw. This last crumbled to pieces as soon as touched. In the midst of these relics was an inverted urn filled quite full of charcoal. No bones seem to have been purposely placed in

this vessel. Its contents were most carefully examined: they were found to consist of burnt wood only, with the exception of one small splinter of bone, not more than a quarter of an inch long. The charcoal had been pressed down very firmly by the hand or with a rammer. At 42 ft. from this, in a direction due south, another urn was found, at a depth of 3 ft. 6 in. It was standing on its base; there were no traces of fire around it; the mouth was uncovered. Its contents were calcined human bones mixed with charcoal tightly rammed down. All the bones were in very small fragments. One bit of the upper part of the skull was the only particle we could identify. It was sufficient to show that this

‘Unknown tenant of the sepulchre’

had died in youth. The coronal suture had never united.

“At 82 ft. northward of this, and at 40 ft. from the central fire the diggers came upon another urn almost exactly similar to the last; this also was standing upright, uncovered, without any marks of fire near it. The contents, which were hardly pressed down, consisted of calcined human bones mixed with charcoal. None of the pieces, after the most exact scrutiny, could be identified.

“I believe the urns to be Celtic. I am sorry to say that they all fell to pieces when removed from their places, so that no drawings could be made of them. Pl. i, No. 3 of the *Journal of the Archaeological Association* for 1850, represents a vessel of similar type to these. The Cleatham ones were, however, somewhat narrower at the mouth. The southern one had no pattern on it, the central and northern ones had a slight indented ornament on their rims (somewhat thus IIII). They had not been decorated with the same instrument.

“About one-fourth of the mound was turned over, but I am by no means sure that the proper depth was reached in many parts.

“The sites of many fires were come upon, but no bones. Had these fires been burned for a religious purpose, in honour of the dead, in worship of God, to avoid misfortune, to pacify the manes of the departed, or were they the remains of burial fires belonging to the urns buried in the vicinity which we did not find?

“No other relics of any kind were turned up except a few chipped flints, *not* knives or spears, which may, perhaps, have been used for the purpose of procuring a light; and two bits of badly smelted iron. These last, I think, as they were near the surface, had been brought there in recent times. If not, they may, perhaps, have been used, as I have suggested the flints were, for the purpose of kindling a fire. The most interesting part of the excavation was not the discovery of the burial relics, but the light that it has thrown on the manner in which sepulchral mounds were formed. Antiquaries have long known that the materials of which these hills—or, at least, the earlier of them, were formed must have been carried in baskets or panniers. No proof of this has, however, as far as I know, yet been given. The barrow diggers at Cleatham had, however, ocular demonstration proof of this furnished to them. The hill stands on a rising ground sloping

to the south; in the valley runs a little stream. It is probable that from the sides of this brook the materials of the mound were procured.

"It was composed entirely of sand without stones in it, and this sand was of various grey and brown tints, shading off to red and white. When a section of the hill was made from east to west each basketful of sand could be distinctly traced, even the side on which the person stood who threw it down could often be made out from the slope that the fallen burden had taken. As almost every basket had a different coloured sand in it, the effect produced was like the mottling of marble. It is proper that I should mention that one of the persons engaged in "the diggings" said that it was evident that children, as well as grown-up people, had been employed in carrying the sand, as some of the heaps were very small. This, I think, is not proven. As the heaps would not be thrown down regularly, it is evident that while some of them would be cut through the middle, and thus shew the largest section possible, others would be cut at the margin only, and thus seem much less than they really were."

Thanks were given to the author of the paper, and to Mr. Maw for permitting the exploration.

A paper on "a Kjökken-mödding in the Island of Herm," was then read:—

*Notices of a Kjökken-Mödding in the Island of Herm.*

By J. W. FLOWER, F.G.S.

In laying before the Society some account of a Kjökken-mödding, which I have lately explored in the Island of Herm, I do not apprehend that the particulars which I have to communicate will be found of great importance, yet I venture to hope that they will not be devoid of interest, inasmuch as they relate to a people which, so far as we know, left no other traces of its existence, and they also bring down the Kjökken-mödding period (or, at least, this particular kjökken-mödding), to a much later date than has hitherto been assigned to it in Europe, and it thus constitutes a link between historic and pre-historic times.

The Island of Herm is one of those known as the Channel Islands. It is situate between Guernsey and Sark, about three miles east of the former island. It is now the property of Mr. John Hyde, and it was by his permission that I examined the deposit in question in the summer of last year.

The kjökken-mödding is situate on the western coast of the island, opposite a rock known as Rat Island; it is about ten feet above high water mark, and at the base of a considerable hill; it now extends, in length about sixty feet, in depth from three to four feet; its breadth has not been accurately ascertained by reason of the great accumulation of earth which has fallen from the overhanging hill.

The result of several days' careful examination of this kjökken-mödding was the discovery of a very heterogeneous collection which it may be convenient to consider under the heads of natural and artificial objects.